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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/662,204

09/12/2003

Huy M. Nguyen

060809-0127-US

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01/12/2006

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EXAMINER

CHO, JAMES HYONCHOL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.A

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/662,204 | Applicant(s) NGUYEN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner James Cho | Art Unit 2819 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-33 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 9, 12 and 34 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 10, 11 and 13-17 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed 10-27-2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 9, 12 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kushida (US PAT No. 6,919,738).

Regarding claims 1 and 34, Figs. 4-7 of Kushida teaches an output driver comprising: an output port (12 in Fig. 4) configured to output a data signal; a level shifter (output buffer 52 in Fig. 4; 52 shifts the level from the output of 54 to 12) configured to drive a current to said output port in response to an input signal (output signal of 54 is an input signal of 52); an adjustable impedance controller (95,96 in Fig. 7 generates impedance adjustment signal by comparing with a precision external resistor in response to variation of the internal impedance due to operating the environmental changes, e.g. temperature, operating frequencies; col. 1, lines 40-59) configured to generate an impedance adjustment signal (REFIU and REFID in Fig. 7); and an output impedance compensator (54 in Fig. 4 compensate the impedance based on 91 and 92 which generates adjustment signals Pz(Ni), Pz(Pi) based on the reference voltage VZQ

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and the signal at node REFIU and REFID) configured to adjust the impedance of said level shifter in accordance with said impedance adjustment signal and in accordance with a reference voltage (VZQ, A1 in Fig. 7)

Regarding claim 9, Figs. 4 and 6 of Kushida teaches the output driver circuit of claim 1 where the adjustable impedance controller is configured to generate the impedance adjustment signal in response to a programmable input (signal enabling N113 in the reference voltage generator 95 in Fig. 7; col. 8, lines 26-32).

Regarding claim 12, Figs. 4 and 6 of Kushida teaches the output driver circuit of claim 9, wherein the programmable input is based at least in part on one or more characteristics of a system in which the output driver is used (the reference voltage generator 95 which is used for determining the buffer size is enabled by N113; col. 8, lines 15-26).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18-33 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 2-8, 10-11, and 13-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter was communicated in the Office action mailed 8-9-2005.

Response to Arguments

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Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims 1 and 34 with a new limitation, "in accordance with topology information" have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

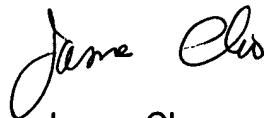
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-1802. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rexford Barnie can be reached on 571-272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Cho", is positioned above the printed name.

James Cho
Primary Examiner
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12-29-2005